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## **Department Letter Rulings Bill Signed into Law** *Senator's Bill Provides Taxpayers Access*

**LANSING** – Sen. Nancy Cassis (R-Novi) announced a victory for taxpayers this week. Legislation Cassis sponsored requiring the Michigan Department of Treasury to publish their letter rulings was signed into law, ensuring that the public will now be able to easily access those rulings.

“This new law is a victory for taxpayers,” Cassis said. “It has always been my commitment to make Michigan laws more taxpayer friendly by ensuring that people have access to all the information they need in making sound tax decisions in compliance with state laws and regulations.”

Letter rulings are official decisions made by the Department of Treasury that respond to questions posed by taxpayers on issues that may be unclear in the law. In the past, the publishing of letter rulings was common practice. Over the last three years, however, the department has cut back in publication.

“If the IRS publishes their rulings, it is just common sense that the State of Michigan follow suit,” Cassis said. “We are here to serve the people of Michigan, and this law provides better access to public information.”

The legislation, Senate Bill 121, passed with overwhelming bi-partisan support both the House and Senate unanimously. The bill was signed by the governor and assigned Public Act 92 of 2003.

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